



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Family Caregiver Month

WHEREAS, family caregivers are the foundation of Rhode Island's system of community-based long term care; and

WHEREAS, family caregivers provide unpaid and often specialized care for children with special health care needs, seniors and adults with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 110,000 family caregivers in Rhode Island provide 118 million hours of uncompensated care each year, with an annual market value of more than \$1 billion; and

WHEREAS, family caregivers who work, experience conflict between those responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, approximately half of family caregivers are 50 or older and therefore at heightened risk of health complications from the demands of caregiving; and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island recognizes the significant need to support family caregivers who, at great cost to their own health and economic well-being, work to keep their family members in the community; and


WHEREAS, respite care is essential to maintain the physical and emotional health of the caregiver, family stability and the quality of long-term care; and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island receives federal funds under the Lifespan Respite Care Act and the National Family Caregiver Support Program under Title III E of the Older Americans Act to offer short-term relief for caregivers who need a break from the daily stress and routines associated with caregiving; and


WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island would like to express its appreciation and thanks to family caregivers for their extraordinary devotion and excellent care; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim November 2012 Family Caregiver Month in Rhode Island and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of this month.




A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 16th day of October, 2012


Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor